

CLAIMS

1. The compound (-) tenatoprazole, or (-)-5-methoxy-2-[[[4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridyl)methyl]sulfinyl]imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine, or one of its salts, substantially free of the (+) enantiomer.

5 2. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising (-) tenatoprazole, or (-)-5-methoxy-2-[[[4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridyl)methyl]sulfinyl]imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, substantially free of the (+) enantiomer, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable
10 excipients or substrates.

3. A composition according to claim 2, wherein (-) tenatoprazole is in the form selected from the group consisting of alkaline and earth-alkaline metal salts.

4. A composition according to claim 3, wherein (-)
15 tenatoprazole is in the salt form selected from the group consisting of sodium, potassium, lithium, magnesium and calcium salts.

5. A composition according to any one of claims 2 to 4, comprising unitary doses containing from 10 to 80 mg of active
20 principle.

6. A composition according to claim 2, comprising (-) tenatoprazole in combination with one or more antibiotics.

7. The use of (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt
25 thereof, for the treatment of digestive diseases and conditions.

8. The use of (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicinal product for the
30 treatment of digestive diseases and conditions where the inhibition of acid secretion must be effective and prolonged.

9. The use of (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicinal product for the treatment of Barrett's syndrome, atypical and oesophageal
5 symptoms of gastro-oesophageal reflux, and digestive bleeding refractory to other proton pump inhibitors (PPIs).

10. The use of (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicinal product for the
10 treatment of digestive diseases and conditions, gastro-oesophageal reflux, and digestive bleeding, in patients receiving multiple drug therapy.

11. The use of (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt
15 thereof, in combination with one or more antibiotics in the manufacture of a medicinal product for the treatment of ulcer resulting from an infection by *Helicobacter pylori*.

12. The use of (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt
20 thereof, in the manufacture of a medicinal product for the prevention or the treatment of the relapse of oesophagitis.

13. The use of (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicinal product with
25 improved pharmacokinetic properties.